

NEW YORK JOURNAL AND ADVERTISER.

W. R. HEARST.

AN AMERICAN PAPER FOR THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.

Our Mongolian Civilizers.

That was a fascinating story which the Journal's Magazine Supplement told on Sunday about the origin of our alphabet. It seems to have been pretty satisfactorily proved that the letters with which all European languages are written, and which were handed down to us by the Greeks and Romans, did not come, as the old Greek legend of Cadmus would have it, from the Phoenicians and through them from the Egyptians. The people to whom we owe this enormous debt, as the researches of Dr. G. R. Conder have shown, were the Hittites, that mysterious race whose wars with Rameses inspired the Egyptian poet Pentaur, and whose buried empire is just emerging from the dust of thirty centuries.

More interesting still, Dr. Conder finds that the language of the Hittites confirms the testimony of their features, preserved on the monuments, that they were of Mongolian origin. It is impossible to glance at one of those old sculptured faces and not be struck by its Chinese characteristics. The Hittites, Dr. Conder thinks, were part of a tremendous migration of Mongolians toward the West, in the neighborhood of 3000 B. C. It was probably about the same time that the "black-haired people" whom we know as Chinese invaded the region now called China and established the beginning of the Chinese Empire. Probably these eastward and westward movements of the Mongolian race from its home in Central Asia were parts of one great eruption like that which set the nomadic peoples of Asia and Europe in motion and overwhelmed the Roman Empire thirty-five centuries later.

The discovery that we owe our alphabet, the very foundation of our civilization, to a people of Chinese affinities, is rather dampening to our pride of race. But that is not the only thing in which the Mongolian intellect has been the pioneer of progress. The Chinese were the first printers, and it was they who first invented gunpowder and the mariner's compass. Is it possible to mention four possessions of our modern civilization more absolutely fundamental than the alphabet, the printing press, the compass and gunpowder?

Is the slow, majestic march of enlightenment around the earth from the Central Asian home of the Chinese and the Hittites, westward to Assyria, to Egypt, to Greece, to Rome, to Western Europe, to England and to America to complete its circuit again with the Chinese? Japan, which derived her civilization originally from China, is now in all essential respects a European power, and fairly in the middle of the current of the world's progress. The building of the Trans-Siberian Railway brings Europe to the doors of China. European influences are flowing in from all sides, and from our base in the Philippines we are doing our share toward the destruction of the isolation of ages.

Either whole or divided, China is certain to have a great part in the world movements of the new century. The Chinese are not an effete people. Their government is rotten, but there is plenty of vigor left in the nation. The resurrection of the Far East is to be the great fact in the world politics of the immediate future. The United States will face the West instead of the East, and the Philippines, forming the western pier of the bridge with which we shall span the world's central ocean, will be one of our most precious possessions.

Panama Talk for Delay.

With the interests of several powerful factions as a pretext, the Congressmen who oppose the isthmian waterway will have a fine chance at the next session to discuss and confuse and delay matters relative to the canal, as a concession to the powerful railroads which oppose it. The talk of the necessity of making a choice between the Nicaragua and Panama routes is merely a part of that scheme of bedevilment.

Nothing will be done to offend the omnipotent railroads until after the Presidential election. Nothing will be done then until the public makes a demand in a way that cannot be ignored.

There is absolutely no legitimate excuse for delay. Over and above our gold reserve of \$100,000,000 there is something like \$180,000,000 surplus in the treasury. With this surplus we could dig the canal without issuing a bond.

From every point of view, political or commercial, the isthmian canal is a necessity. We have said repeatedly, it will add immeasurably to our naval power and would like the country strong where it is now weak.

To prevent the digging of the canal the railroads have combined against the people, and the Republican House and the Republican Administration are sure to take sides with the railroads, more especially at a time when campaign funds are in demand.

It may yet come to pass that the glory of building this great waterway will be given into the hands of a Democratic President.

This, however, can never happen until the Democratic party abandons its foolish anti-expansion policy and becomes again, as it was in the time of Jefferson, in harmony with the spirit of American progress and patriotism.

When Governor Canfield, of Georgia, deliberately tells the people of his State that they are "hated by the Northern people, who have sowed the seeds of discord between the Southern whites and blacks," he shows that his knowledge of Northern feeling cannot be very extensive.

Stupendous Railroad Combination.

Harrimans and others.

Whatever may be for the good or the harm of one of these roads is to be considered for the good or the harm of all.

In other words, it is to the interest of the roads running across the continent to fight the isthmian canal, in order to rake more dollars out of the pockets of the people.

The cross-continent roads can therefore make their fight with two hundred million dollars in their hands and two billion dollars in their pockets.

If other railroads want to make exorbitant rates in favor of brother trusts they will buy the necessary legislation to do it.

They will have the power to mould Senators, Cabinets and Presidents. They will stand at the head of all trusts as Lord High Dictator. They can freeze cities for the want of coal. They can starve communities for the lack of provisions. They can ruin small dealers with rebate rates and cheap competition. In short, they can control the commerce of the country and wield it for their own benefit.

Of course they will not do this so openly as to cause a ballot box issue, but the combination is not alone for the purposes of arbitration and traffic agreement, as has been asserted.

It is for the purposes of offence and defence, and in this the power of the combination will be almost inconceivable. The "offence" on the part of these trusts is their campaigns against competition and their systematic extortion from the people. Their "defence" consists of warfare against all legal restraint.

Such combinations are legal and cannot be helped. But they are bringing the day of the people's own railroad combination ever nearer.

In the stress of his duties, which are supposed to be strictly non-partisan, State Superintendent of Elections McCullagh finds time for many partisan moves.

He finds time to prophesy the election of Mazer in the Nineteenth District. He finds time to cast all the onus of colonization on the Democrats. He finds time to report to Platt in the interests of Republicans.

And still he is "State Superintendent of Elections."

Merriment as Related to Drunkards.

Mr. Hills seems to think that all drunkards are hereditary drunkards, and that they drink because they are unable to abstain from it.

Generally speaking, we are an intemperate nation, but the intemperance of nineteen men in twenty is not hereditary. It is acquired. There are men who achieve drunkenness deliberately and periodically. Others have drunkenness thrust upon them.

The periodical drunkard is a prey to circumstances. If he happens to be a rich man his joy or sorrow will arraign him at the bar. If he is a laboring man he gets drunk any days, because the task of earning his money is over and he seeks the relaxation in penniless days he is unable to purchase.

Whether a man be a periodical or an habitual drunkard, he is sure to cause misery. Hills inveighs against ministers and ultra-temperate physicians, who "assemble a blockhouse, deaf to the bugle of common sense."

Excessive use of whiskey has nothing to do with common sense. As a medicine it is a failure throughout the misery maker it is perfection.

TALKS WITH JOURNAL READERS.

Don't Pay Blackmail.

Editor of the New York Journal:
Duplications of the enclosed circular have been sent to various clerks in the employ of the Government, and some of them question the advisability of acceding to the request therein contained. Will you kindly give us your advice in the matter and oblige.

ONE OF THEM.
The circular mentioned by our correspondent is the blackmailing communication sent by Hanna's Finance Committee in Ohio to Federal officials throughout the country striking them for contributions to the Republican campaign fund. We have already commented upon this impudent attempt to beat the Civil Service law, prohibiting assessments of office-holders. Hanna's representatives have laid themselves liable to criminal prosecution by their proceedings in this matter. Our advice to the threatened clerks is most emphatically to pay no attention to the blackmailers. They will not dare to molest officials who refuse to allow their pockets to be picked.

About Salary Loans.

Editor of the New York Journal:
I am one of many thousands in this city who have fallen into the power of the firms who advertise for loans on salaries.

I came here from Manchester, England, two years ago with a half crown in my pocket and found a position as clerk in a shipping house. I have been advanced from \$40 a month to \$75 a month salary. Three months ago I obtained a salary loan of \$50, for which I was to pay \$10 monthly. The result is that I now owe the lenders over \$100, and it is still growing. Is there no redress? JAMES ROSS CONLIN.
South street, Oct. 30.

Your experience is cheap at \$100. Unfortunately the law does not seem sufficient to cover such cases. The existence of these firms is made possible by careless legislation, and they do not hesitate to fatten upon human misfortune and misery.

These firms know all the nice little loopholes of the law through which they are accustomed to escape, and they will make a suit at law a luxury which you cannot afford.

If you are not trying to escape further drains in excess of the amount you borrowed, you can simply refuse to pay any more. The lenders cannot enforce a usurious contract.

We would advise you to be more cautious in future how you put your head into the lion's mouth.

Heredity and Revenge.

Editor of the New York Journal:

I saw in the Journal last week an article about a woman who applied to the District Attorney for permission to be a witness at the electrocution of her husband's murderer. Also that she begged that he might die at once. "With my own eyes," she said, "I want to see him suffer."

What hope is there for future civilization when creatures such as this exist? It seems to me that she is as depraved as the murderer.

AN AMERICAN WOMAN.

Mount Vernon, Oct. 28.

One foolish woman does not make a civilization, any more than one swallow makes a Spring.

This woman—a pitiful drop in the sea of East Side life—has in her brain the traditions and the sub-conscious feelings of centuries of revengeful ancestors. She would gloat over a dying man. In all other things she may be a good woman, just as she was a good wife.

Often in an emergency of great wrong the American citizen gets the lynching fever. It is not lasting. It fades with passing days.

With an Italian, as with a Corsican, the fever is lasting. He cannot help it. It is an inheritance which comes to him legitimately and abides with him ever. It is deplorable but unavoidable.

Something About Indoor Noises

Editor of the New York Journal:

Much has been said and written about unearthly street noises and their effect upon the nerves. I write to ask if there is not some way of putting a stop to indoor noises.

I live in a back room in a boarding house. In the back window of a house across the way there is a screaming, gibbering parrot. In the adjoining house a young woman thumps for hours on a piano. A few doors further down somebody hammers a xylophone. Is there no redress for evils such as these? To whom shall I apply?

DANIEL M. DAVIS.

West Forty-ninth street.

The law, while handling street nuisances with upbrought hands, seems to have overlooked parrots and pianos. Apparently xylophones do not appear in Blackstone.

You would better change your boarding house.

Over in New Jersey the courts have decided that a citizen may break his furniture, play the piano with an axe and sing midnight roundels so long as he pays his rent and taxes and conducts himself decorously on the street.

The Constitution of this State also gives a citizen the privilege of dancing upon everything belonging to him except his wife, children and mother-in-law.

We fear that Mr. Davis has no redress.

Loiterers in Hotels.

Editor of the New York Journal:

Is there a hotel in this city where a woman guest can be free from corridor and parlor loiterers? Should not the parlors and hallways of hotels be exclusively for the use of guests and their visitors? Men have their cafes and smoking rooms, yet they invade the parlors and hallways, to the exclusion and annoyance of regular guests. MRS. M—
Oct. 27.

There may be hotels where the loiterer is unknown, but we have failed to find one. A hotel is in a measure a public house, and it is a hard matter to inquire into the character and purpose of everybody who may come and go through the lobbies and hallways.

In Boston the police have standing orders intended to keep women out of hotels where they are not guests.

It is hard to see how such a rule can be enforced. A woman who dines at a hotel, although not a regular guest, should be allowed the use of the parlor.

It seems likely that in spite of all protests women and men will continue to meet their mothers, wives, sisters and sweethearts in hotel parlors for dinner and theatre parties, and that any attempt to put them out will end in failure.

WAR EXPERTS ANALYZE BOER-BRITISH STRATEGY.

Leading Military Authorities Comment on the Tactics of the Rival Commanders for the Journal—They Prophesy a Great Change as Soon as Sir Redvers-Buller Reaches the Scene.

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PARIS, Oct. 30.—General Gallieana, former Governor of Madagascar, was asked to give the Journal his opinion of the British-Boer strategy as indicated in the reported movements of the armies in Natal. He said:

"I have not their plan of campaign, but the manoeuvres of the past few days were simple enough. The English were holding Glencoe and Ladysmith. The Boers came from the north in several detachments. One of these attacked without waiting for the others."

"Theoretically, this was not a good piece of tactics, but one has to be on the spot to take all the circumstances into consideration. The idea of having the three columns converge upon Ladysmith was good, though difficult to carry out. Theoretical truths cannot always be reduced to practice."

"The last English movement, which is one of retreat, is made for the purpose of concentrating their troops while awaiting reinforcements from England. This shows that they do not consider themselves strong enough to withstand a Boer attack in the advanced positions, otherwise they would have concentrated upon Glencoe, which, however, they could not do safely without exposing their line of communication from the south."

"The general strategy of the Boers has not been bad. Quite the contrary. But in spite of their great bravery and devotion their tactical execution has been defective. Hence their recent defeats."

"The English campaign, which at present is defensive, is doubtless taken up thus with very good reason, for they are awaiting reinforcements, at the same time taking advantage of all opportunities to strike a blow at the enemy. Their offensive strategic plan, I believe, has not yet been revealed."

GENERAL DE TRENTINIAN—"Boers Are Born Fighters."

General De Trentinian, the old fighter of the Sudan, said: "The Boers have plenty of courage, but not so much opportunity for strategy. They are doing something, however, in having their three columns now almost united. They might have followed the old Roman system and gone in for a war of devastation. As you will see from studying the map, they are likely to be driven to simple tactics and guerrilla warfare."

"The English have performed the concentration on Ladysmith well, and subsequent events show that this successful withdrawal of the English troops from Glencoe was well done. The manoeuvres of the Commander-in-Chief at Ladysmith in engaging the attention of the only considerable Boer force which menaced the success of the concentration were well executed."

"Strategy or no strategy, the Boers are born fighters."

GENERAL BRIALMONT—"Britain Must Alter Her Recruiting."

(Copyright, 1899, by the New York Journal and Advertiser.)

Brussels, Oct. 30.—General Brialmont, the highest military authority of Belgium, and recognized throughout Europe as one of the greatest military tacticians alive, declined to give any opinion upon the probable course of the war in South Africa. In the first place, he said:

"The news we are getting from South Africa is too confused, and the contradictions are too numerous to afford basis for any decided opinion. Even our Natal maps are too imperfect to enable the Continental experts to follow the campaign scientifically."

"Probably as soon as the British reinforcements reach Durban the whole aspect of things will change, the Boers being reduced to assume strictly a defensive attitude, which, in such a hilly country as the Transvaal, may permit of long resistance; but even on this point no serious Continental authority ought to venture upon any absolute prediction."

"One fact which strikes me as a conclusion that may be deduced from what we have seen of the war is the insufficiency of the British military organization. I cannot conceive why, having to contend against such small people as the Boers, devoid of military organization and not really well armed, a great power such as England should lay such strain upon its resources and be obliged to call out the whole or part of its reserves. That is full evidence that if Great Britain had undertaken war against any Continental power the British could not hold the field against it for more than eight days. They would be crushed at once."

"If, therefore, Britain wishes to continue playing her part in Continental affairs, she must quickly alter her recruiting system, and bring it up to the level of the French, German, Russian and Italian military organizations."

GENERAL F. V. GREENE: "I Expect the British to Win."

General Francis V. Greene is enthusiastic in his praise of the bravery of the British soldiers. General Greene was in command of one of the first brigades that were sent to Manilla. He is a West Pointer, but retired from the army many years ago. He was formerly colonel of the Seventy-first Regiment, of this city. Referring to the British campaign in South Africa he said:

"England will not make the mistake of sending too few men. Transports are carrying the pick of the British army to fight against the Boers. General Sir Redvers-Buller, who will have command, is an experienced fighter and a general of conspicuous ability. He is not apt to make mistakes, and after his arrival there is small danger that England will suffer from blunders."

"The reports that we have received from Africa have been too meagre to furnish a basis for any intelligent discussion of the tactics of the two armies."

"I do not know the Boer character well enough to prophesy, but I should be very greatly surprised at any outcome of the war unfavorable to England."

"The British soldiers now in the Cape are splendid fighters. They are as good soldiers as any in the world. There should be some desperate fighting, but whatever may happen at first, I expect England to win."

CHOLLY KNICKERBOCKER TALKS HORSE AND FORETELLS A QUAKER SEASON.

ANTHONY DREXEL arrives in this country next week. I would really like to know if he has been offered a kingdom or not. His family are at present staying at Norry Castle, where they will remain. While Anthony—who might have been Anthony I. of Somewhere—settles in England, the John Drexels are going about the conquest of New York. They are to be seen on a scale of more than lavish splendor this Winter. They will have one of the show boxes at the Horse Show and one of the most conspicuous places in the opera. They are to give dinners principally, as there are no young folk to come out, and they will try the ever popular musicale on New Yorkers.

But the Drexels will not be the only Quaker City folk in the field. The announcement that Mrs. W. E. Carter was a great beauty has changed the Carters from comparatively quiet persons in Philadelphia to a couple who are delighted to be in the midst of everything fashionable. When they returned to Philadelphia from Newport the Quaker City went wild over them. You see what the kindly notice of Willie K., our Prince of Wales, has done. Now the Carters will have a box at the Show, and are off this week for New York, to May Irwin. It shows what one might call a spirit of fraternity—except it is not fraternity—among the friends, the Wideners, also will be much in evidence, and it looks very much as if we were going to have a Philadelphia year, just as we were before it was all Baltimore.

With the exception of weddings there is very little going in society this week. The Gentry Van Rensselaer wedding is, of course, the most conspicuous one in town, and then we have the Lawrence-Willing wedding, at Newport. The Jack Astors leave for Newport to-morrow, and are to remain there until after the ceremony. I do not know exactly the date of their sailing for Egypt, but I suppose it will be in December. The sale of boxes for the Horse Show is something of a small event, but there seldom are any people there except a few who love the horse, and many dealers. Mrs. Fred Benedict is one of the principal purchasers. Albert Stevens you always see, and Lee Teller and Mrs. Sidney Harris and Mrs. Bob Osborn, too.

Mrs. Jack Bloodgood is giving quite a series of little suppers after the play, and very nice they are. Last week it was Miss Clisde Loftus whom she entertained, and this week it is to be the jolly

ABOUT MEN IN THE PUBLIC GAZE. GLEANED FROM TO-DAY'S NEWS.

Admiral Dewey.—Yesterday he took possession of his new home. The last of the furniture was arranged in the house and the Admiral's trunks were brought up from the apartments he has been occupying in the Everett.

Governor Roosevelt.—In issuing his proclamation yesterday for a day of thanksgiving and praise in this State the Governor says:

"The people of this State are not merely New Yorkers; they are Americans, and as such they have shared in the blessings that have come upon America during the year that has gone by."

The Governor has set apart Thursday, November 30, as the day upon which the people may give thanks.

Chancellor McGill.—Alexander T. McGill, New Jersey's Chancellor, who is in the Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, under treatment by

Professor Oesler, has improved and soon will be entirely recovered from his illness, which was caused by overwork.

If he does not feel able to take up his work, however, he will hold to his original intention and resign.

Captain Lambertson.—A dinner was given in honor of the captain of the United States cruiser Olympia by his fellow members of the Theta Delta Chi Society in Sherry's last night. Captain Lambertson was the founder of the chapter of the society in Dickinson College. Nearly every college and university in the East was represented at the dinner. Covers were laid for one hundred persons. The room was decorated with the colors of the nation, the navy and of the society.

Willis S. Paine, of the Bankers' Trust Company, presided. A. G. Hetherington was toastmaster.

There were seated at the table with the guests of the evening Professor Hufcutt, of Cornell University; Professor Harstom, of the Highland Military Academy; and Colonel Abell Stone.

John E. Searles.—He has purchased the Bessemer Steel plant in West Superior, the Ironton Open-Hearth, Steel plant and the big car works in Duluth, and will begin their operation at once. The plants, when they have been placed in condition to operate, will have cost him \$2,000,000. Railroad cars, bridge and structural steel and all kinds of merchandise and wire will be made.

General Francis V. Greene.—Last evening he gave a dinner in the Metropolitan Club, at Fifth avenue and Sixth street, in honor of Senator Mariscal, Vice-President of Mexico; Senator Llanthan, Minister of Finance; Senator Moran, Member of Congress, and Senators Alonzo Mariscal and Jollo Llanthan.

General Hatzfeldt.—They both go to the country, where Jimmie Van Allen and the Misses Van Allen will have the Winter. It is true that Harry Lehr will visit Jimmie Van Allen in England. The versatile Harry will go abroad next Spring, but there have been no definite plans made for his first appearance in London.

CHOLLY KNICKERBOCKER.

EDITORIALS FROM THE PEOPLE WRITTEN TO THE JOURNAL.

The Watershed Commission Robbery.

Editor of the New York Journal:
Your article this morning, "Kill the Watershed Commissions," was an eye opener to me. Some months ago I lent money upon the security of an impending award for a curtailment of certain lots in the widening of One Hundred and Tenth avenue. The Commissioners had been named. I think, in April, and the award, I was told, would soon be announced. Six months have elapsed and no award yet. One might think that two weeks would have been ample time to accomplish the work. You say in regard to the conduct of the Watershed Commissions, "This is robbery pure and simple." But it is worse than simple robbery—worse than highway robbery or burglary—for the impelling motive there is often want, and the courage required gives some dignity to the crime. But these men occupy places of trust, are men in whom the community reposes confidence; and, besides, are men who are remarkably well paid for their services. To rob under such circumstances is not "simply robbery," it is a base betrayal of the people beside which

simple robbery seems almost a virtue. Yours very truly,

C. P. DE BARROW.
Philadelphia, Pa.

A Remedy for the Trust Evil.

Editor of the New York Journal:
I would like to ask the Journal if a law somewhat similar to the following would not fully cure the trust and monopoly evil:

"Be it enacted by the Congress of the United States, the Senate concurring, that all railroad corporations, telegraph companies, telephone companies, manufacturing, mines, mercantile establishments, or any other institution whatsoever, within the jurisdiction of the United States of America, employing twenty or more persons in the ordinary transaction of business, are hereby declared to be of monopolistic tendency, and are therefore forbidden by this act to buy, sell or charge at such figures as will insure them more than six per cent profit on the actual cost of such enterprises respectively; and that the books and operations of each and every such institution shall be continually and at all times accessible to the authorities of the United States, for a thorough

and intelligible investigation thereof, for the purpose of regulating and establishing prices; and on failure or refusal to comply with any of the requirements of this act, shall be fined in the sum of one-tenth of the amount of capital invested, for each and every offence.

W. E. HICKS.
Poughkeepsie, N. Y., Oct. 7.

The Law's Delay.

Editor of the New York Journal:
The Journal, which does so much good in advocating the rights of the people, should support proposed constitutional amendment authorizing the appointment by the Governor of four Justices of the Supreme Court to act temporarily in Court of Appeals, for the purpose of relieving the calendar. It is an outrage that the people of New York must wait practically five years before they can get a final determination of a case in court. If it is appealed to the court of last resort, our Supreme Courts in this city are about as behind their work as the Court of Appeals. Between the two a suit cannot get through much before five years. This state of things we great hindrance to litigants. A SUFFERER